AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a)' whether Government's attention has been drawn to the remarks and observations made by the Prime Minister to 'Sunday' Magazine dated 13th —19th November issue; if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the functioning of Doordarshan;

(b) whether Government are aware of the widespread criticism that news coverage by Doordarshan is very narrow and limited; and

(c) what is the number of TV sets at present in operation in India?.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to improve upon its programmes.

(b) Na, Sir. The reporting of the news is governed by a set of rules as contained in the News Policy for Broadcast Media. As per these guidelines, the news has to be factual, acu-rate and objective and only such events which make news are included in the news bulletins.

(c)' It is estimated that about 13.3 million TV sets were there in India as on December, 1987.

Circulation of daily newspapers in Incla

2784. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state what is the circulation of daily newspapers in India as on today?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION' AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L, BHAGAT):

As per the information available in the Annual Returns Uled by the newsr papers with the Registrar of Newspapers for India, total circulation of daily newspapers in India as on 31st December, 1987 was 2,26,07,000

Rules Regulations for construction of 5-Star Hotel in Delhi

2785. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rules and regulations for five star Hotel constructions, reallotment of shopping arcade area in total area of the Hotel in New Delhi;

(b) whether any flexibility has been permitted in the implementation of these regulations in New Delhi during last three years; and

(c) whether all permissions givea to construct Hotels in connection with ASIAD are all fulfilled, how many hotels were permitted to be constructed what is the state of affair abont them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) N.D.M.C, have reported that the construction of a 5-star hotel is allowed either on a plot falling in the pocket earmarked as commercial zone in the Master/Zonal Plan or on a plot specifically earmarked for such purpose in the Master/Zonal Plan. While approving the plans, it is ensure that following requirements have been satisfied:—

1. that plans are in accordance with the provisions contained in the bye-laws.

2. that the Chief Fire Officer has certified that the plans satisfy the fire safety requirements from Are safety point of view.

3. that scheme is as per Master/ Zonal plan regulations.

4. that the scheme has the approval of the Delhi Urban Art Commission.

As regards shopping arcade is concerned, there are no specific rules/ regulations either contained in the building bye-laws or Master/Zonal Plan recommendations.

(b) N.D.M.C, have intimated (hat no flexibility has been permitted in the implementation of the regulations during the last three years.

(c) N.D.M.C, have reported as under:—

In connection with ASIAD, plans in respect of four five star hotels sites given, as under, were approved by the N.D.M.C:

1. Samrat Hotel at Kautilya Marg.

2. Hotel Taj Palace at Sardar Patel Marg.

3. Hotel Meridian at Windsor Place.

4. Bharat Hotel at Barakhamba Road.

Hotels at SI. No. 1, 2, & 3 above have become operational fully whereas the hotel at SL No. 4 above is under operation partly.

Cable video

2786. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's thinking about Cable Video which is register ing a fast growth in Calcutta, Bom bay and some other places in the country:

(b) whether Government are look- In into the possibility of encourag ing its growth either through private, public or joint sector to use the medium for information education and entertainment of the people; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any official group has been set up to look into the streamlining and modernization of the entire spectrum of existing media imbibing latest technology?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY' AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI HI. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) This Ministry has no proposal for the growth of cable video system-

(c) Yes, Sir. A Forward Looking Group was Constituted in May, 1987 to identify relevance of the emerging new technologies in the electronic media and advise their application in respect of All India Radio and Doordarshan.

Reduction in ration quota in Delhi

2787. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHA-Krishna: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Go vernment have reduced fortnightly ration quota of wheat from 3 kg. to 1 kg. per unit in th$_e$ Sagarpur asid Najafgarh areas of Delhi which are rural areas and brought at pai' with in the elite areas where the people are not much dependent on the rations wheat;

(b) whether Government propose t$_0$ restore the quota of 3 kg. per unit fortnightly in the rural/slum areas of Delhi; and

(c) if so. by when and if not. the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVTL SUPPLIES (SHRl D. L. BAITHA): (a) Delhi Administration has denied this.